

Message Text

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ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 IO-13 TRSE-00 /084 W
-----015262 221411Z /41

R 211825Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5453
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION USNATO

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BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC

FOR INR

E.O. 11652: N.A.
TAGS: PEPR, UR, SP, PINT, SP
SUBJECT: PCE STATEMENT REGARDING SOVIET TRIALS

REF: MADRID 8135 (NOTAL)

1. THE ONLY FURTHER PUBLIC SPANISH POLITICAL REACTION
TO THE TRIALS HAS COME IN THE FORM OF AN EXPRESSION
OF "INDIGNATION AND PROTEST" BY THE PCE, FOLLOWING
UP ON ITS EARLIER CRITICISM OF THE TRIALS REPORTED
REFTEL. THE COMMUNIQUE, CARRIED ON THE EDITORIAL
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PAGE OF THE JULY 20-26 EDITION OF "MUNDO OBRERO,"
IS ATTRIBUTED TO THE PARTY'S MOST IMPORTANT EXECUTIVE
ORGAN, THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE. IT STATES:

2. "THE PCE HAS MANIFESTED ITS PROFOUND DISQUIET
IN THE FACE OF THE RECENT TRIALS CARRIED OUT IN THE

SOVIET UNION. NOW THAT THE SENTENCES OF THESE TRIALS
ARE KNOWN, WE EXPRESS OUR INDIGNATION AND PROTEST."

3. "THE PRACTICE OF ATTEMPTING TO WIPE OUT DIFFERING
OPINIONS BY TURNING TO ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES IS
CONTRARY TO OUR CONCEPTION OF WHAT A SOCIALIST SOCIETY
SHOULD BE. (A SOCIALIST SOCIETY) SHOULD BY ITS VERY
NATURE DEMONSTRATE IN A SPECIAL MANNER ITS SUPERIORITY
IN RESPECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL. FOR
US, THIS IS A POSITION OF PRINCIPLE, BEFORE THE
VIOLATION OF WHICH WE CANNOT REMAIN SILENT, AS WE HAVE
NOT IN THE PAST."

4. "MOREOVER, EVEN THOUGH ANY STATE LOGICALLY POSSESSES
FACULTIES FOR DEFENDING ITS OWN SECURITY AGAINST PRE-
SUMED ACTIVITIES WHICH THREATEN IT, THE LACK OF GUARANTEES
IN THESE TRIALS SEEMS PARTICULARLY GRAVE TO US."

5. "OUR PARTY CONSIDERS IT EXTREMELY DANGEROUS THAT
THE 'DISSIDENTS' ARE BEING EQUATED WITH TRAITORS TO
THE FATHERLAND. BY THESE STANDARDS, ANY CITIZEN WHO
ASSERTS AND DEFENDS DIFFERING OPINIONS CAN BE SUBJECTED
TO POLICE SURVEILLANCE, DETENTION, AND TRIAL, ON THE
GROUNDS THAT ANY OPPOSITIONIST IS A POTENTIAL SPY."

6. "THE PCE REAFFIRMS, ONCE AGAIN, ITS CONCEPTION OF
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SOCIALISM IN LIBERTY, OF A SOCIALISM THAT GUARANTEES
POLITICAL PLURALISM AND THE DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS OF THE
HUMAN BEING, OF A SOCIALISM IN WHICH TRIALS AND SENTENCES
SUCH AS THOSE THAT HAVE JUST TAKEN PLACE IN MOSCOW CANNOT
HAPPEN." TODMAN

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NNN

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